11

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1.   A method for intelligent routing within a wireless network (100), the method comprising: storing at least one user definable routing profile (245), the routing profile (245) storing user definable selection criteria (247) for selecting among routing relationships between a client device (110) and a server device (120) within the wireless network (100); determining whether a routing relationship between the client device (110) and the server device (120) satisfies the user definable selection criteria (247) stored in the routing profile (245); selecting the routing relationship between the client device (110) and the server device (120) that satisfies the user definable selection criteria (247); and establishing a connection between the client device (110) and the server device (120) in accordance with the selected routing relationship.

2.   The method of claim 1, wherein the user defineable routing profile (245) is stored at the client device (110), and the client device (110) initiates the steps of determining, selecting and establishing.

3.   The method of claim 1, wherein the user definable routing profile (245) is stored at a centralized controller (150), and the centralized controller (150) initiates the steps of determining, selecting and establishing.

4.   The method of claim 1, wherein the user definable selection criteria (247) includes rules for selecting amoung routing relationships based on the user application to be performed between the client device (110) and the server device (120).

5.   The method of claim 1, wherein the user definable selection criteria (247) includes rules for selecting among routing relations based on at least one of: a shortest route, a received signal strength indicator, a required bandwidth, and an available bandwidth between the client device (110) and the server device (120).

6.   The method of claim 1, wherein the user defineable routing profile (245) further includes configuration information for configuring the connection between the client device (110) and the server device (120), and wherein the step of establishing comprises establishing the connection between the client device (110) and the server device (120) in accordance with the selected routing relationship and the configuration information.

7.   The method of claim 1, further comprising monitoring the established connection to determine whether the established connection continues to satisfy the user definable selection criteria (247)

12

8.   The method of claim 7, further comprising rerouting the established connection between the same client device (110) and the same server device (120) using a different routing relationship stored in user definable routing profile, if the established connection ceases to satisfy the user definable selection criteria.

9.   The method of claim 7, further comprising deactivating the established connection between the client device (110) and the server device (120), and activating a second connection between the client device (110) and a different server device (120) in accordance with the stored user definable routing profile, if the established connection ceases to satisfy the user definable selection criteria.

10.   A system for smart connection management of a portable device (110) configured to support a plurality of network connection types, the system comprising: means for storing at least one user definable routing profile (245), the routing profile (245) storing user definable selection criteria (247) for selecting among routing relationships between a client device (110) and a server device (120) within the wireless network (100); means for determining whether a routing relationship between the client device (110) and the server device (120) satisfies the user definable selection criteria (247) stored in the routing profile (245); means for selecting the routing relationship between the client device (110) and the server device (120) that satisfies the user definable selection criteria (247); and means for establishing a connection between the client device (110) and the server device (120) in accordance with the selected routing relationship.

11.   The system of claim 10, wherein means for storing, determining, selecting and establishing are located at the client device (1 10).

12.   The system of claim 10, wherein the means for storing is locaated at a centralized controller (150).

13.   The system of claim 10, wherein the user definable selection criteria (247) includes rules for selecting amoung routing relationships based on the user application to be performed between the client device (110) and the server device (120).

14.   The system of claim 10, wherein the user definable selection criteria (247) includes rules for selecting among routing relations based on at least one of: a shortest route, a received signal strength indicator, a required bandwidth, and an available bandwidth between the client device (110) and the server device (120).

15.   The system of claim 10, wherein the user defineable routing profile (245) further includes configuration information for configuring the connection between the client

13

device (110) and the server device (120), and wherein the means for establishing comprises means for establishing the connection between the client device (110) and the server device (120) in accordance with the selected routing relationship and the configuration information.

16.   The system of claim 10, further comprising means for monitoring the established connection to determine whether the established connection continues to satisfy the user definable selection criteria (247)

17.   The method of claim 16, further comprising means for rerouting the established connection between the same client device (110) and the same server device (120) using a different routing relationship stored in user definable routing profile, if the established connection ceases to satisfy the user definable selection criteria.

18.   The method of claim 7, further comprising means for deactivating the established connection between the client device (110) and the server device (120), and activating a second connection between the client device (110) and a different server device (120) in accordance with the stored user definable routing profile, if the established connection ceases to satisfy the user definable selection criteria.